APR 3 0 2004 55

PATENT Application of BLOOMBERG et al. 10/081,132

Docket No. 3524/52

#2

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

BLOOMBERG et al.

Serial No.:

10/081,132

Filed:

February 21, 2002

Title:

COMPUTER TERMINALS BIOMETRICALLY ENABLED FOR

NETWORK FUNCTIONS AND VOICE COMMUNICATIONS

Examiner:

R. Persino

Group Art Unit: 2682

RECEIVED

MAY 0 7 2004

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Technology Center 2600

RESPONSE TO MARCH 31, 2004 OFFICE ACTION

This paper is responsive to the Office Action dated March 31, 2004, which imposed a restriction requirement on this application.

Applicants provisionally elect Group I (claims 1-12) for prosecution, and request reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement for the reason presented below. Election is made without admission, and without prejudice to Applicants' right to file divisional applications on, or otherwise prosecute, the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

The Examiner has already conducted a search or searches for all of the subject matter of the pending claims, and has already examined all of the subject matter of the pending claims on the merits. The subject matter of the claims, as such subject matter relates to the restriction requirement, has not changed since before the Examiner's search or searches and examination on the merits.

Applicants have fully responded to the Office Action in respect of all of the claimed subject matter. It is submitted that there has been no change in position by the Applicants that triggers a need for a restriction requirement. The Examiner, having made